

Sources of Resources - Student Activity



How a rock is made can control how and why we use it as a resource.

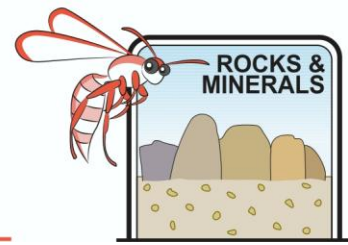
Limestone is a biogenic sediment. It formed from the calcium carbonate shells of marine organisms. Often it is further changed (geochemically) by groundwater.

The Roundhouse in Fremantle was built from Tamala limestone because it is soft and easy to carve into blocks using simple hand tools and man power provided by convicts. It was also light, cheap and locally available.

Unfortunately these characteristics make it prone to weathering. Its porosity and permeability also makes rising damp a problem.

Using you knowledge of rocks and earth processes (as well as the internet, if necessary) complete the following table:

Material	Earth process which created it and why it is useful for this purpose
Granite for use in kitchens, bathrooms and monuments	
Sand for laying under cement as a house pad.	
Clay for pipes, roofing tiles, plates, bathroom furniture and fittings.	
Iron ore for structural steel.	
Marble for tiles and decoration.	



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Material	Earth process
Talc for toiletries and smoothing out paper.	
Pumice for polishing.	
Quartz sands for glass making.	
Slate for roofing.	
Dolerite for "road metal".	
Sandstone for water holding aquifers.	